

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 13, 26-30, 32, 33, 35 and 36. The status of the claims is as follows:

1-12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) A notification apparatus, comprising:

means for determining a failure has occurred in a device and a use of the failed device is prohibited, the determination of the failure being made independent of a device control unit that performs control over the failed device;

a notification device ~~notifying a~~ for instructing the device control unit that performs control over the failed device, ~~of the prohibition of use of the failed device by enabling the device control unit to attempt to access the failed device~~ when the means for determining determines that the failure has occurred in the failed device;

wherein the device control unit ~~recognizing~~ recognizes the prohibition of use of the failed device if the device control unit is unable to access the failed device.

14. (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said notification device includes a pseudo-interrupt issuance device making the device control unit access the failed device by issuing a pseudo-interrupt to the device control unit and calling up an interrupt process of the device control unit.

15. (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said notification device includes an access instruction issuance device making the device control unit access the failed device by issuing an access instruction to the device control unit and calling up an access process of the device control unit.

16. (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 13, further comprising a notification judgment device judging whether the device control unit should be notified of the prohibition of use of the failed device.

17. (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said notification judgment device includes a device judging whether a device control unit should be notified of a prohibition of use of a failed device for each device group included in the system.

18. (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said notification judgment device includes a device judging whether a device control unit should be notified of a prohibition of use of a failed device for each device control unit that performs control over a device included in the system.

19. (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said notification judgment device includes a device judging whether a device control unit should be notified of a prohibition of use of a failed device for each device included in the system.

20. (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said notification judgment device includes a setting device setting information about whether the device control unit should be notified of the prohibition of use of the failed device, and outputs a judgment result corresponding to the set information.

21. (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said setting device includes a device setting the information for each device group included in the system.

22. (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said setting device includes a device setting the information for each device control unit that performs control over a device included in the system.

23. (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said setting device includes a device setting the information for each device included in the system.

24. (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 16, further comprising a confirmation device checking whether another device in the system is affected by the failed device, said system prohibiting use of a device affected by the failed device and said notification judgment device judging whether a device control unit that performs control over the affected device should be notified of the prohibition of use of the affected device.

25. (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 16, further comprising a confirmation device checking whether another device in the system is affected by the failed device.

26. (Currently Amended) A notification apparatus, comprising:  
a first system including a confirmation device for determining, when a failure occurs in a device in the first system and use of the failed device is prohibited, whether use of any other devices in the first system should be prohibited as a result of the failed device,  
a notification device for changing a state of the failed device and any other devices that are determined to be prohibited from use, ~~to a state where another system related to the failed device can recognize a~~ and notifying a second system, external to the first system, of the prohibition of use of the failed device and the other devices in the first system.

27. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium on which a program is recorded, said program comprising:

determining a failure has occurred in a device and a use of the failed device is prohibited, the determination of the failure being made independent of a device control unit that performs control over the failed device;

enabling a computer to ~~perform notifying a~~ instruct the device control unit that performs control over the failed device ~~of the prohibition of use of the failed device by making the device control unit to attempt to access the failed device~~ when the determination is made that the failure has occurred in the failed device,

wherein the device control unit ~~recognizing~~ recognizes the prohibition of use of the failed device if the device control unit is unable to access the failed device.

28. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium on which a program is recorded, said program comprising:

determining, when a failure occurs in a device in one system and use of the failed device is prohibited, whether use of any other devices in the one system should be prohibited as a result of the failed device,

enabling a computer to perform changing a state of the failed device and any other devices that are determined to be prohibited from use in the one ~~first system to a state where another system related to the failed device can recognize a~~, and notifying a second

system, external to the first system, of the prohibition of use of the failed device and the other devices in the one system.

29. (Previously Presented) A notification method, comprising:

determining a failure has occurred in a device and a use of the failed device is prohibited, the determination of the failure being made independent of a device control unit that performs control over the failed device;

prohibiting use of the failed device; and

~~notifying a~~ instructing the device control unit that performs control over the failed device, of the prohibition of use of the failed device by making the device control unit to attempt to access the failed device when the determination is made that the failure has occurred in the failed device,

the device control unit recognizing the prohibition of use of the failed device if the device control unit is unable to access the failed device.

30. (Currently Amended) A notification method, comprising:

prohibiting use of a failed device when a failure occurs in one system of an open system;

determining whether use of any other devices in the one system should be prohibited as a result of the failed device, and

changing a state of the failed device and any other devices that are determined to be prohibited from use ~~to a state where another system related to the failed device can recognize~~, and notifying a second system, external to the one system, of the prohibition of use of the failed device and the other devices in the one system,

the failed device being one of an input/output bus, a display adapter, a display, a communication adapter, and a storage device.

31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently Amended) A notification apparatus, comprising:

means for determining a failure has occurred in a device and a use of the failed device is prohibited, the determination of the failure being made independent of a device control unit that performs control over the failed device;

prohibition means for prohibiting use of the failed device; and

notification means for ~~notifying a~~ instructing the device control unit that performs control over the failed device ~~of the prohibition of use of the failed device by making the device control unit to attempt to access the failed device~~ when said means for determining determines that the failure has occurred in the failed device;

wherein the device control unit ~~recognizing~~ recognizes the prohibition of use of the failed device if the device control unit is unable to access the failed device.

33. (Currently Amended) A notification apparatus, comprising:

prohibition means for prohibiting use of a failed device when a failure occurs in one system;

determining whether use of any other devices in the one system should be prohibited as a result of the failed device, and

notification means for changing a state of the failed device and any other devices that are determined to be prohibited from use in the one system ~~to a state where another system related to the failed device can recognize~~, and notifying a second system, external from the first system, of the prohibition of use of the failed device and the other devices in the one system,

the failed device being one of an input/output bus, a display adapter, a display, a communication adapter, and a storage device.

34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently Amended) A transmission medium for transmitting to a computer a program, said program comprising:

determining a failure has occurred in a device and a use of the failed device is prohibited, the determination of the failure being made independent of a device control unit that performs control over the failed device;



enabling the computer to ~~perform notifying a~~ instruct the device control unit that performs control over a failed device, ~~of the prohibition of use of the failed device by making the device control unit to attempt to access the failed device~~ when the determination is made that the failure has occurred in the failed device,

wherein the device control unit ~~recognizing~~ recognizes the prohibition of use of the failed device if the device control unit is unable to access the failed device.

36. (Currently Amended) A transmission medium for transmitting to a computer a program, said program comprising:

determining, when a failure occurs in a device in one system and use of the failed device is prohibited, whether use of any other devices in the one system should be prohibited as a result of the failed device,

enabling the computer to perform changing a state of the failed device and any other devices that are determined to be prohibited from use in the one system ~~to a state where another system related to the failed device can recognize a~~, and notifying a second system, external to the one system, of the prohibition of use of the failed device and the other devices in the one system,

the failed device being one of an input/output bus, a display adapter, a display, a communication adapter, and a storage device.